

REMARKS

The non-final Office Action of October 5, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration, entry of the amendments, and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. New claims 65-74 have been added. Claims 24-25, 27, 40-42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 51-52 and 54 have been amended. Claims 55-64 have been canceled. Claims 24-27, 40-54 and 65-74 remain pending. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter with respect to claims 24-27 and 40-54.

The amendments to the above referenced claims further clarify the features of the invention and do not alter the allowable status of the claims. Support for the amendments may be found in the specification.

New claims 65-74 depend from their respective base claims, claims 24 and 51, and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 24 and 51 and further in view of the non-obvious and novel features recited therein. Support for the new claims may be found in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 55-64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rignell *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,920). Without acquiescing in this rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 55-64 in order to further prosecution of this matter and place the present application in condition for allowance.


All rejections having been addressed, Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same. Should the Examiner find that a telephonic or personal interview would expedite passage to issue of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the

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telephone number indicated below. If any additional required fees are or if an overpayment has been made the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733. Applicants look forward to passage to issue of the present application at the earliest convenience of the Office.

Respectfully submitted,
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